GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2970
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2000
IMPORT OF LIFE SAVING DRUGS
A. VENKATESH NAIK

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a): The total value of life saving drugs and equipments imported by the Government during the last three years;

(b): the names of countries from which these imports were made;

(c): the steps being taken by the Government to ensure production of these drugs in the country;

(d): whether the multi-national companies have proposed in the chemical and fertilizers sector both in public and private sectors;

(e): if so, the details thereof; and

(f): the efforts being made by the Government to tap such resources and install latest technology in the Chemical and fertilizers sector?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS

(SHRI RAMESH BAIS)

(a): The imports of Drugs & Pharmaceuticals, as per the data maintained by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Ministry of Commerce, are Rs.1039.18 crores, Rs.1447.12 crores and Rs.1446.83 crores in the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 respectively.

(b): The major countries from where imports are being made are USA, Canada, Cuba, Mexico, Brazil, Ireland, UK, Denmark, Germany, France, Italy, Sweden, Switzerland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Romania, Russia,Finland, Netherlands, Norway, China, Korea, Japan, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Australia and New Zealand.

(c): The Drug Policy of the Government is directed towards ensuring abundant availability of drugs at reasonable prices.

(d) to (f):The receipt of proposals for foreign collaboration is an ongoing process. The proposals are considered by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) in consultationwith the administrative Ministry, concerned for approval.The details of such approvals, namely, name and country of foreign collaborator, percentage of equity, item of manufacture/activity and location of the project are published by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion in their monthly publication, namely,`SIA Newsletter` which is widely circulated including to the Parliament Library.